Amendments To The Claims:

1. (Original) An apparatus for applying an inward force to a medical device comprising:

a blade constraining member;

a first mount rotatable with respect to the blade constraining member;

a first plurality of blades arranged to form a first chamber whose size may be varied by rotating the first mount with respect to the blade constraining member, each blade of the first plurality of blades pivotally connected to the first mount;

a second mount rotatable with respect to the blade constraining member;

a second plurality of blades arranged to form a second chamber whose size may be varied by rotating the second mount with respect to the blade constraining member, each blade of the second plurality of blades pivotally connected to the second mount;

wherein the blade constraining member is engaged with at least one blade from the first plurality of blades and with at least one blade from the second plurality of blades.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a first drive device arranged to rotate the first mount with respect to the blade constraining member.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a second drive device arranged to rotate the second mount with respect to the blade constraining member.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the blade constraining member is slidably engaged with at least one blade from the first plurality of blades and with at least one blade from the second plurality of blades.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein a blade from the first plurality of blades further comprises an aperture, a blade from the second plurality of blades further comprises an aperture, and the blade constraining member extends through the aperture of the blade from the first plurality of blades and through the aperture of the blade from the second plurality of blades.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein a blade from the first plurality of blades further comprises a slot, and the blade constraining member translocates within the slot as the first mount is rotated with respect to the blade constraining member.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of blade constraining members, wherein each blade constraining member is engaged with one blade from the first plurality of blades and with one blade from the second plurality of blades.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first mount and first plurality of blades comprise an independently operable discrete section, the second mount and second plurality of blades comprise another independently operable discrete section, further comprising a third independently operable discrete section.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising 4 to 80 independently operable discrete sections.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a drive device for each independently operable discrete section.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first plurality of blades includes three or more blades.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first plurality of blades includes eight blades.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first plurality of blades includes 16 or more blades.

14. (Currently amended) An apparatus for applying an inward force to a medical device comprising:

a mount;

a plurality of blades arranged to form a chamber whose size may be varied, each blade pivotally connected to the mount;

at least one blade constraining member; and

a motorized drive device;

wherein at least one blade comprises a slot that is slidably engaged with the blade constraining member, the slot having a lengthwise axis, a pivot point of the blade being offset from the lengthwise axis; and the motorized drive device is arranged to rotate the mount with respect to the blade constraining member.

15. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein ~~at least one blade further~~ the slot comprises an aperture, and the blade constraining member extends through the aperture.

16. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein ~~the aperture comprises a slot, and~~ the blade constraining member translocates within the slot as the mount is rotated with respect to the blade constraining member.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein one blade constraining member is provided for each blade, and each blade is slidably engaged with a blade constraining member.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the motorized drive device comprises an electric motor, a linear actuator, a hydraulic drive system or a pneumatic drive system.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the mount comprises a gear that meshes with a drive gear of the motorized drive device.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the chamber has a length of 2 mm or less.

21. (Original) An apparatus for applying an inward force to a medical device comprising:

a plurality of blade constraining members;

a first mount having a plurality of first blades arranged to form a first chamber, each first blade being pivotally attached to the first mount;

a second mount having a plurality of second blades arranged to form a second chamber, each second blade being pivotally attached to the second mount;

each blade having a slot;

each blade constraining member passing through the slot of a first blade and through the slot of a second blade;

wherein the size of the first chamber may be adjusted by rotation of the first mount relative to the blade constraining members; and

wherein the size of the second chamber may be adjusted by rotation of the second mount relative to the blade constraining members.

22. (Currently amended) A method of reducing the size of a medical device, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an apparatus for applying an inward force to a medical device, said apparatus comprising a plurality of blades arranged to form a chamber; each blade being pivotally secured to a mount; at least one blade ~~being~~ comprising a slot that is slidably engaged with a blade constraining member, the slot having a lengthwise axis, a pivot point of the blade being offset from the lengthwise axis; wherein the size of the chamber may be adjusted by rotating the mount with respect to the blade constraining member;

placing at least a portion of a medical device within said chamber; and

rotating the mount with respect to the blade constraining member to reduce the size of the

chamber, thereby reducing the size of at least a portion of the medical device.

23. (Currently amended) A method of reducing the size of a medical device, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an apparatus for applying an inward force to a medical device, said apparatus comprising a plurality of first blades arranged to form a first chamber; each first blade being pivotally secured to a first mount; at least one first blade being slidably engaged with a blade constraining member; wherein the size of the chamber may be adjusted by rotating the first mount with respect to the blade constraining member, ~~The method of claim 21, wherein~~ the apparatus further ~~comprises~~ comprising a plurality of second blades arranged to form a second chamber; each second blade being pivotally secured to a second mount; at least one second blade being slidably engaged with said blade constraining member; wherein the size of the second chamber may be adjusted by rotating the second mount with respect to the blade constraining member; ~~and~~

~~wherein the method further comprises:~~

placing a portion of a medical device within said first chamber and a portion of the medical device within said second chamber; ~~and~~

rotating the first mount with respect to the blade constraining member to reduce the size of the firstchamber, thereby reducing the size of at least a portion of the medical device; and

rotating the second mount with respect to the blade constraining member to reduce the size of the second chamber, thereby reducing the size of a second portion of the medical device.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the first chamber may be adjusted independently from the second chamber.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the medical device is a stent.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the stent is disposed about a medical balloon, and the medical balloon is disposed about a catheter.

27. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the mount is rotated relative to the blade constraining member by a drive device.

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[21]]~~ 22, further comprising the step of cryogenically cooling the blades.